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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAKING PROGRESS IN SEARCH FOR NEW PRESIDENT AT BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

The Screening Committee appointed by the Idaho State Board of Education to seek candidates for the position of President at Boise State University revealed today that it has received approximately 80 applications for the position. Dr. Charles Ruch, Boise State's current President, announced earlier this year his plans to retire in Summer 2003.

The Screening Committee, selected by the State Board of Education in October 2002, is responsible for overseeing the recruitment and screening process. Although applications continue to be received, the Committee has begun the screening process, and will eventually bring forward to the Board a list of three to five individuals suited for the position. The State Board will ultimately make the decision as to which candidate is hired.

Chairman of the Screening Committee and a member of the State Board, Rod Lewis, commented, "We appreciate the time and efforts of the Committee members in recruiting and

reviewing applicants. We have received a substantial number of applicants and are extremely pleased with the quality of the applicants. Many of the applicants are highly qualified, with excellent credentials and leadership experience in higher education.”

The Committee’s next steps will be to select semifinalists from the current applicant pool, conduct initial interviews, and begin background checks and due diligence. The Committee will then select a group of finalists to be submitted to the State Board of Education. These finalists will engage in interviews on the BSU campus in early Spring 2003, providing an opportunity for students, employees and other interested parties to participate in the selection process.

“One of the most important aspects of our efforts going forward will be to complete the due diligence and interview process and determine who among our candidates is the best fit for Boise State University,” stated Mr. Lewis.

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